

Message Text

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APPROVED BY EUR:GSSPRINGSTEEN

EUR/RPM:WROMINE/AFLOYD .

JS/J-6:MGEN SCHULKE

ASD(T):MR.SOLOMON

OTP:MR.JOYCE

DCA:LTG GOULD

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TO USMISSION NATO

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USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207437

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: INTEGRATION OF US DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
IN EUROPE WITH THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS
SYSTEM (NICS)

REFS: A. USNATO 3674

B. USNATO 3675

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C. STATE 164908

1. YOUR PROPOSAL HAS BEEN GIVEN THE MOST SERIOUS ATTENTION. IT HAS SEVERAL FACETS WHICH MUST BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY. ONE IS THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE, INTEGRATION OF US AND NATO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS. ANOTHER IS NATO OR NATO-NATION ASSUMPTION OF O AND M RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTED SITES AND FACILITIES. A THIRD IS APPROACHING CERTAIN NATO NATIONS ON THEIR ASSUMING THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

2. AS A LONG-RANGE GOAL IT IS CONSIDERED DESIRABLE FOR THE US TO PURSUE INITIATIVES THAT IMPROVE NATO COMMUNICATIONS AND COULD IN DUE COURSE ACHIEVE INTEGRATION OF US AND NATO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS. CLEARLY, BEFORE PARTS OF THE DCS ARE TRANSFERRED TO, OR INTEGRATED WITH THE NICS, THE US MUST HAVE CERTAIN UNILATERAL CAPABILITIES AND SELF-ASSURANCES BEFORE IT WILL RELINQUISH ITS MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM TO NATO. THEREFORE, INTEGRA-

TION CAN BE EXPECTED TO COME THROUGH AN EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS. WE WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT CURRENT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE INTERCONNECTION OF ACE HIGH AND THE DCS ARE FULLY SUPPORTED HERE.

3. THE CONCEPT OF HAVING NATO OR NATO NATIONS ASSUME O AND M RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARTS OF THE DCS IS SOUND AS A LONG RANGE GOAL, AND IT CONTRIBUTES TO OUR NATIONAL OBJECTIVES. IT IS BEING PURSUED AS AN ELEMENT OF OTHER ISSUES, ULTIMATELY LEADING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF US OBJECTIVES AND CONDITIONS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION. FURTHER, WE BELIEVE THAT OUR BROADER BASED INITIATIVES WILL LEAD TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF AND PLAN FOR COOPERATION THAT SHOULD INCLUDE NATO ASSUMPTION OF SOME US AND O AND M COSTS. IN VIEW OF THIS, THE US SHOULD NOT SURFACE THE MATTER OF TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY AS A SEPARATE US INITIATIVE AT THIS TIME.

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